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Providence Independent, V. 23, Thursday, January 6, 1898, [Whole Number: 1175]

Providence Independent

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J. W. ROYER, M. D.,
Practising Physician,
TRAPPE, Pa. Office at his residence, nearly
opposite Masonic Hall.

M. Y. WEBER, M. D.,
Practising Physician,
EVANSBURG, Pa. Office Hours: Until 9
a. m.; 2 to 5 p. m.

E. A. KRUSEN, M. D.,
Homeopathic Physician,
COLLEGEVILLE, Pa. Office Hours: Until 9
a. m.; 2 to 5 p. m.

S. B. HORNING, M. D.,
Practising Physician,
EVANSBURG, Pa. Telephone in office.
Office Hours until 9 a. m.

DR. B. F. PLACE,
Dentist,
COR. MAIN AND DEKALB STREETS,
NORRISTOWN, Pa.
Rooms 306 and 307. Entrance, Main Street.
Keystone Telephone, No. 75. Take Elevator.

Cheap and Reliable Dentistry.
DR. N. S. BORNEMAN,
309 SWEDD ST.,
NORRISTOWN, Pa.

In active practice 20 years. The only place
where Pure Laughing Gas is made. A special-
ty in the extraction of teeth; \$5.00 gal-
lons administered the past 7 years. Beautiful
Artificial Teeth inserted. Charges Reasonable.
English or German Language spoken.

DR. FRANK BRANDRETH,
(Successor to Dr. Chas. Ryckman.)
DENTIST,
ROYERSFORD, Pa. Practical Dentistry at
lowest prices.

F. G. HOBSON,
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All legal business attended to promptly. First-
class Stock Fire Insurance Companies repre-
sented. At home, Collegeville, every evening.

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And Notary Public. Land Title and Trust
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Also member of the Montgomery County Bar.

HARVEY L. SHOMO,
Attorney at Law,
No. 22 MAIN STREET, ROYERSFORD, Pa.
All legal business promptly attended to.
Notary Public. U. S. claims. 4-11

GEORGE N. CORSON,
Attorney at Law,
TIMES BUILDING, NORRISTOWN, Pa.
All legal business promptly attended to.

JOHN T. WAGNER, — E. C. WILLIAMS,
WAGNER & WILLIAMS,
Attorneys and Counsellors at Law,
8 E. AIRY STREET, NORRISTOWN, Pa.
Conveyancing and Real Estate. Properties
bought, sold, and exchanged. Rents collected.
Money to lend on good security. All legal busi-
ness attended to with promptness and accuracy.
Mr. Wagner can be seen evenings at Iron-
bridge; Mr. Williams at Port Providence.
Philadelphia Office, 420 Walnut St., Room 36.
Consultations in English or German. 4-16

J. M. ZIMMERMAN,
Justice of the Peace,
COLLEGEVILLE, Pa. Legal Papers, Bonds,
Deeds, etc., executed and acknowledged.
Taken. Conveyancing and Real Estate busi-
ness generally attended to. The clerking of
sales a specialty.

JOHN S. HUNSICKER,
Justice of the Peace,
RAHN STATION, Pa. Conveyancer and
General Business Agent. Clerking of sales at-
tended to. Charges reasonable.

EDWARD DAVID,
Painter and
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COLLEGEVILLE, Pa. Estimates furnished
always on hand.

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Painter and Paper Hanger
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and contracts taken.

J. P. KOONS,
Practical Slater.
RAHN STATION, Pa. Dealer in every qual-
ity of Roofing, Flagging, and Ornamental
Slates. Send for estimates and prices.

DANIEL SHULER,
Contractor and Builder,
TRAPPE, Pa. Contracts for the construction
of all kinds of buildings executed. Estimates
cheerfully furnished. 2ma.

A. J. TRUCKSNESS,
—TEACHER OF—
VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC,
PROVIDENCE SQUARE, Pa. Organs tuned
and repaired. 14aply

JOHN H. CASSELBERRY,
Surveyor & Conveyancer.
All kinds of legal papers drawn. The clerking
of sales a specialty. Charges reasonable.
P. O. Address: Lower Providence, Pa. Resi-
dence: Evansburg, Pa. 13oc.

SUNDAY PAPERS.
Different Philadelphia papers delivered
to those wishing to purchase in Collegeville and
Trappe every Sunday morning.
HENRY YOST, News Agent,
Collegeville, Pa.

W. J. THOMPSON,
—PROPRIETOR OF—
Collegeville Meat Store!
Beef, Veal, Mutton, Pork, and Dried Meats
always on hand.
Patrons served from wagon every Tuesday,
Thursday and Saturday. 2mo.

F. W. WALTERS,
Contractor and Builder,
TRAPPE, Pa.
Contracts for all kinds of buildings executed.
Estimates cheerfully furnished. 9jan.

JOHN M. LATSHAW,
—TEACHER OF—
VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC,
TRAPPE, Pa.
Also Practical Organ Tuner, having had an
experience of 20 years. 2ma.

PASSENGERS
And Baggage
Conveyed to and from Collegeville Station.
Charges reasonable.
HENRY YOST, Collegeville, Pa.

J. VINCENT POLEY,
ARCHITECT,
420-422 SECOND AVENUE,
ROYERSFORD, Pa.
Plans and Specifications prepared on short
notice. Charges moderate. 9sep.

LITERARY.
EDITED BY FRANCES G. MOSER.
BOOKS ARE SILENT TEACHERS

The diffusion of these silent
teachers, books, through the whole
community is to work greater
effects than artillery, machinery
and legislation. The culture which
it is to spread while unspeakable
good to the individual is also to be-
come the stability of the nation—
Channing.

WHERE PICKWICK WAS
WRITTEN.

The London *Graphic* has this to
say of it:—
"I can remember," says Thack-
eray, "when Mr. Dickens was a very
young man, and had commenced
delighting the world with some
charming humorous works in covers
which were colored lighted green,
and came out once a month, that this
young man wanted an artist to
illustrate his writings and I remem-
ber walking up to his chambers in
Furnival's Inn with two or three
drawings in my hand, which, strange
to say, he did not find suitable."

The "young man's" chambers, the
stone steps up which he so often
hurried, will soon be no more.
Furnival's Inn, on the north side
of Holborn, was the residence of
Charles Dickens both in his bachelor
days, when he was a reporter for
the *Morning Chronicle*, and for a
while after he was married. He re-
mained there from his father's lodg-
ings in 18, Bentinck street, and
took chambers, first at No. 13, the
"three-pair back," from Christmas,
1834, till Christmas, 1835. Then
he took the brighter set of rooms,
the "three-pair floor south," at No.
15, the house on the right hand of
the square as you enter in the
center of the facade. There he
lived from 1835 till his removal in
March, 1837, to 48, Doughty Street.
A tablet outside records the fact;
the brass and iron stair rail still re-
mains, and the stone steps which
lead to the upper floors; the facade,
too, with its Ionic pilasters and its
cheep classic appearance is abso-
lutely the same. "Dickens was
married," says one of his biograph-
ers, "from Furnival's Inn on the 3d
of April, 1836, to Catharine, eldest
daughter of Mr. George Hogarth,
his old colleague on the *Morning
Chronicle*, the wedding taking place
at St. Luke's Church, Chelsea." He
doubtless lived in Furnival's Inn
in his early matrimonial days, much
in the same way as Tommy Trad-
cles as described in "David
Copperfield." Here the "Sketches
by Boz" were written, and the
earlier numbers of the immortal
"Pickwick Papers," as also lesser
works, such as "Sunday Under
Three Heads," "The Strange Gen-
tleman" and "The Village Coquet-
tes." The quietude of this retired
spot in the midst of a busy thor-
oughfare and its accessibility to the
Chronicle offices in the Strand must
have been very attractive to the
young author. His eldest son was
born here on the 6th of January,
1837.

Mr. Ellwood Roberts, literary
editor of the *Norristown Herald*,
has been engaged during the past
week in writing a series of interest-
ing articles on the "Old Upper
Merion Schools." The contribu-
tions are of historic value, and it
is hoped by many of the author's
friends that they will later appear
in a more permanent form. In that
of Friday's issue Mr. Roberts al-
ludes to John H. Williams, a former
member of the *Herald's* editorial
staff, as follows:

"It may be mentioned that the
late John H. Williams was a pupil
at the Holstein School for a time

before it was abandoned for educa-
tional purposes in 1854. Mr. Will-
iams was, however, very largely self-
taught, a goodly part of his educa-
tion being acquired at the "case" in
printing offices. The bent of his
mind toward a humorous view of
life had not then developed. A few
years later, when the demand for
American humor had been created
—and supplied—by writers like
Artemus Ward, Mrs. Partington,
Josh Billings and others who
achieved world-wide fame, Mr. Will-
iams drifted naturally into literary
labor and gained a national reputa-
tion as the "Funny Man" of the *Nor-
ristown Herald*. Associated with
him for many years in newspaper
work, the writer remembers frequent
references on his part to his school
days and his early attempts at
humor. Sober, earnest and reserved
as a rule, no one who did not know
him would have suspected, from a
glance at his serious, though kindly
face, the depths of humor that lay
beneath the surface.

Humor and pathos are very
closely allied, and Mr. Williams'
career had its pathetic side to one
who watched as did the writer the
unequal contest with the disease to
which he finally succumbed. He was
an invalid for the last half-dozen
years of his life, although at
times his eyes would light up with
the old fire and his pen would run
on for hours with its accustomed
energy. It was often suggested to
him that he ought to collect his
best thoughts and publish a volume
which would give him permanent
fame such as newspaper work never
could. His answer invariably was:
"Do that for the benefit of my
family when I am gone."

On Monday a new daily journal,
to be known as the *New York
Commercial*, was issued for the first
time. The purpose of the paper
will be a continuation of the *Ship-
ping and Commercial List* and *New
York Price Current*, which has been
a successful enterprise for more
than a century.

The serious charge of plagiarism
preferred against the poet Sir
Edwin Arnold has caused much
commotion in the literary world.
The literary editor of the *Philadel-
phia Press* thus expressed his
opinion recently:

"It must be granted that there
are a good many paragraphs set off
by quotation marks, Sir Edwin ad-
mitting by these that he cannot
allow himself to improve upon others,
and some put in apparently to blind
the reader; but there are a great many
paragraphs and pages which stand
as original but which ought to show
the quotation marks."

A WILL AND THE WAY

Existence under the guardianship
of some one who is doing his duty
by you is not an unimpaired pleasure.
Miss Bradford's sister, Mrs. Galla-
tin, was doing her duty by Miss
Bradford. The former was not at
all pretty. The latter was very,
very pretty, which is so much more
charming than being very, very
beautiful. But Mrs. Gallatin was
married and Miss Bradford was not.
This came of the fact that Mrs.
Gallatin had visited at Fort Preble
and had captured an unfledged
lieutenant by maneuvering and a
miracle, and that Miss Bradford
had spent her 21 years in a small
Maine town.

Boys in the village had been in
love with Bessie Bradford, but she
had not been in love with them,
and she had, moreover, a decent ap-
preciation of her own value and
knew she was far too good for such
as they. There had been a college
youth, also, once, but he and she
had quarreled before the end of his
summer visit. And now Bessie
was one-and-twenty, and the family
worried. It worried itself into a
state where even the raising of a
mortgage on the home did not seem
too great a thing, if it would but
insure her marriage. With the
money thus obtained she was sent
across the continent with instruc-
tions to get herself wedded before
she came back. Those things are
treated as business in New England
hamlets. She was told to marry
a general if she could. If not, any-
thing, down to a second lieutenant.
Lieutenant and Mrs. Gallatin
lived in the building known as the
Corral. If the Corral were in the
city, it would be called a tenement.
But Uncle Sam does not quarter
his officers in tenements. The
Gallatins were cramped for room—
very cramped. They had three
children and second lieutenant's
pay, so they were poor. Therefore
taking Miss Bradford in was not a
pleasure. It was a duty, and Mrs.

Gallatin would not have been a
New Englander if she had not done
her duty.

But Bessie felt the unpleasant-
ness of the situation the very day
of her arrival.
"Captain Soutter is going to take
you to the hop this evening, Bess,"
Mrs. Gallatin said. Bessie was cut-
ting paper bird cages for her nieces.
Mrs. Gallatin was mending a pina-
fore.

"I have promised to go with Mr.
Milford," answered Miss Bradford,
stopping and looking up from the
scissors.

"Mr. who?"
"Mr. Milford. Colonel Milford's
son, who lives in St. Louis."

"Where have you met him?"
The "him" warned Bessie that she
was running on rocks.

"On the train. We got ac-
quainted. He's in business in St.
Louis, and he's coming to visit his
people because he's in bad health.
He's a very nice man."

"Man! He must be about 23. A
perfect boy! And his business is
being a briefless barrister. Now,
let me tell you one thing, Bessie.
You must learn from the first that
the civilian son of an officer is no-
body at all in a garrison. You will
burr your chances badly with the
officers by going with him. How
did he know there was to be a
hop?"

Bessie finished opening the cage,
gave it to her niece with a kiss,
gathered the scraps of paper in her
hand and threw them into the waste-
basket, clasped her fingers behind
her curly brown head and answered
leisurely: "He didn't know there
was to be one to-night. He asked
me to go to the first one there
should be after our arrival."

Mrs. Gallatin thought how very,
very pretty Bessie was and won-
dered if her husband contrasted
them.

"He probably will never think of
it again. Captain Soutter is going
to call to ask you this afternoon,
and you'd better accept."

"Can one go with two men out
here—antenuptially?"

"Don't be vulgar. You needn't
consider the Milford boy."

"Oh, but I must, Genevieve, you
know. I promised." Miss Brad-
ford's big gray eyes were guile-
lessly earnest.

"I've no doubt that pose is taking
with the men, but you can't make
your devotion to promises succeed
with me, dear. I know you too well.
I can't remember that they worried
you with the boys at home."

"This promise don't worry me;
not a little bit."

"Well, I should suggest that you
take my advice and be less flippant.
Recollect that you were not sent
way out here to flirt with penniless
civilians and small boys."

"If I forget, remind me, will
you? I'll make you a little red silk
flag, if you like. I can make flags.
I made one for a fair at home once.
You might draw it from your bosom
and wave it when you see me about
to run off the track you have all so
kindly and laboriously laid for me
to run on. I'll teach you the
signals. Mr. Milford and I studied
them from the back of our sleeper.
I think there's some one at the
door, sister dearie."

It was Captain Soutter, come to
formalize the hop arrangement. He
was obviously very glad that he
had come. For Miss Bradford was
pretty—extraordinarily pretty.

"I am happy in being a near
neighbor of yours, Miss Bradford,"
he told her. He forgot, as men
will, how often he had cursed the
ill luck which threw him within
hearing distance of the Gallatin
trio of infants.

"Yes?" said Bessie. "You are
in our vicinity, then?"
"A little above you in the world.
I live up stairs. When you want
me, you have only to pound on the
ceiling."

"The—what is it—quartermaster?
The quartermaster mightn't like me
to wear out his ceiling?"
"You flatter me by the implica-
tion, Miss Bradford. But I'll settle
with the Q. M. if you will only
pound. For instance, will you
pound to-night when you're ready
for the hop, to which it is my
dearest wish to be permitted to
escort you?"

He forgot what he had wished
when Mrs. Gallatin had asked him
to perform this act of courtesy
toward the coming sister. But then
he had looked at Mrs. Gallatin and
had judged from her of the sister.
"I would be only too delighted if
I were not that I have already
promised to go with some one else."

The betrayed captain manifested
his astonishment and resentment at
having been subjected to refusal.
He had a high opinion of his
dignity, had the captain.

"Why, who on earth can have
asked you already?" he cried.

Miss Bradford had a cool little
northern air, when she liked. She
considered the captain's question in
bad taste, so she raised her eye-
brows and smiled most sweetly. "I
shall hope to have a dance with
you, Captain Soutter," she said.

And she had not one, but three.
The captain forgot his wrath at the
sight of her. When she came from
the dressing room into the hallway
to join young Milford, the captain
was by the door. He looked at her.

"Might I hope to be accorded the
second and fifth and ninth, Miss
Bradford?" he asked.

"Oh, thank you," said Bessie.
She was grateful, and he was quite
appeased.

Now Miss Bradford was a suc-
cess. She had what was known as a
beautiful time for three whole
months. No girl was remembered
ever to have received altogether so
much attention. She always had
lovers, and the two don't always go
together. Captain Soutter loved her,
so did Lieutenant Paxton, and so
did young Milford. Bessie loved
young Milford. A girl who prefers
"cit" clothes to a uniform is
peculiar, to say the least. Bessie
didn't say or show whom she loved,
except to Milford. She had told
him. She had refused Paxton, and
she warned the captain off. But
the last she could not do much
longer. The captain had a good
opinion of himself.

He also had a dignity which was
not to be trifled with. Mrs. Galla-
tin was by no means sure of Miss
Bradford, so one day she spoke to
her. The process of being spoken
to can arouse the worst in a girl.
But Bessie was in a broken and
contrite frame of mind. She and
young Milford had quarreled, and
she didn't care what became of her.
She might as well marry any old
man and sacrifice herself for her
family. She made a most affecting
picture of herself as an offering on
the altar of matrimony and filial
duty. She would pine away
picturesquely in a year or so, and
Will Milford—well, perhaps he
would go to the devil. She hoped
so. It was under this pressure that
she solemnly promised and swore
to Mrs. Gallatin to marry Captain
Soutter if he asked her. What
Miss Bradford promised and swore
she never broke.

So as soon as she and young
Milford made it up she set about
wondering how Captain Soutter
was to be kept from asking her.
Yet she could not arrive at any
plan. The captain was an impetuous
southerner, and he was neither over
well bred nor nicely discriminating.
Bessie was worried. If it had been
that she had promised and sworn
anything to young Milford and had
had to choose which vow to break,
she would not have hesitated. But
she had teased him and only an-
swered "maybe," for which she now
suffered.

But fate came to her aid, as it
always should and always don't in
the case of a very pretty girl like
Bessie.

She was going to another hop,
and she was going with Captain
Soutter. He had invited her at the
time that she was practicing for the
martyr role. As she couldn't,
therefore, go with Milford, she
would wear the gown he liked,
which was white silk. For it she
had to have white gloves, and her
white gloves were soiled. There-
fore they must be cleaned. Miss
Bradford was an adept at cleaning
gloves. She prepared a special
mixture of a number of chemicals
and powders. This mixture had to
be whipped up—as if it had been
the white of eggs—very light and
frothy. It had a most unpleasant
odor, but it was pretty to look
upon. Because the odor was so un-
pleasant, Miss Bradford opened the
door into the hallway and stood
just within it, besting.

There was air in the hallway, and
there was none in the Gallatin's
quarters, as the baby had a cold.
Captain Soutter had a cold, too, a
frigid one. If he had not had,
he would have noticed the smell of
Miss Bradford's mixture. He came
through the hall on his way to his
own quarters on the floor above.
Colonel Milford was with him. The
captain didn't like the colonel par-
ticularly, on account of his being
his son's father.

"Ah! Miss Bessie! What a
pretty, housewifely picture we
make," said the captain.

Bessie smiled encouragingly.
"What are we doing? Whipping
cream? How good it looks. If
Hebe would but feed us with
ambrosia."

The colonel smelled the ambrosia,
but he held his peace.

"I'll give you a taste, captain, if

you want it very, very much. Open
your mouth wi-i-i-de. Shut your
eyes."

She put a heaping forkful in his
mouth. The horrible taste made
him gasp. The gasp made him
swallow the froth. Colonel Milford
laughed. But Captain Soutter went
to his quarters without a word.

Bessie went to the hop that
night with young Milford. After-
ward, while she and her sister and
Lieutenant Gallatin were having
their supper of beer and crackers
and cheese, Miss Bradford told
them that she was going to marry
the penniless civilian.

"But how about Captain Sout-
ter?" asked Mrs. Gallatin.

"Hush! He might hear you. Oh,
I'm awfully afraid he'll never speak
to me again." And he never did.—
Guendolen Overton in Argonaut.

HOW WE MAKE CRIMINALS.

S. D. RATH, FORMERLY CHAPLAIN OF
THE JOLLET PENITENTIARY, DIS-
CUSSES THE QUESTION.

I think criminologists agree that
most criminals are so by occasion
or accident, and differ in no
essential respect from other men.
An individual becoming excited in
discussion, or under the influence
of liquor, or account of an insult,
may, on the spur of the moment,
strike the offender with the nearest
object in his reach; if it is a ham-
mer he becomes a criminal, and if
it is a book he does not. I am not
overlooking the class of habitual
and professional criminals, but the
fact that three-fourths of the men
sent to Joliet never are returned
there seems to say that they do not
belong to these classes, it is of the
occasional criminals I now write.
If we could thoroughly trace the
causes which brought many con-
victs into crime, we would learn
that their temptations were above
those of others, who have main-
tained a reputation for integrity
and good citizenship only because
they were not exposed to the
temptations which beset the men
deemed fallen brothers. The chief
difference between many convicted
of crime and others who are re-
puted upright citizens is more a
difference of temptation than a real
difference of character. Many
deemed fallen would be deemed up-
right to-day if their temptations
had been less powerful, and many
regarded the substantial citizens of
their communities most likely
would be stamped criminals had
they been tempted as such convict
brothers were.

Yet these men, occasional criminals,
never before guilty of crime
and who likely never will be again,
are received practically just as the
professional criminal is received.
They are introduced to bad com-
pany; no attempt is made to keep
them and the professional criminals
apart, and they are made to feel
that if they are not reprobates,
they yet are among those who are.

Their fellowship in prison is set-
tled by chance. Prisons are so
crowded that in the majority of
cases each cell has two men. The
young and the old, the weak and
the vicious, the sensitive and the
brutal, the gentle and the vulgar,
are shut up together, with scant
light, little diversion and no occu-
pation other than the reading of
books of their own selection. If
the occasional criminal does not be-
come the habitual one it would
seem to be no fault of the people
who force on him such environ-
ments for one, five, ten, twenty or
more years.

Such facts seem to say that as well
as we are able we manufacture what
is called the habitual criminal. An
unknown writer put it perhaps a
little strong when he said "Did
society design to provide a forcing
bed for vice it would not have to
change a single detail in its methods
of dealing with occasional criminals."—*Chicago Record.*

THE EARTH'S JOURNEY IN SPACE.

THE WHOLE SOLAR SYSTEM MOVING
TOWARD THE STAR VEGA.

I have seldom felt a more de-
licious sense of repose than when
crossing the ocean during the sum-
mer months I sought a place where
I could lie alone on the deck, look
up at the constellations, with Lyrae
near the zenith, and, while listening
to the clanks of the engine, try to
calculate the hundreds of millions
of years that would be required by
our ship to reach the star Alpha
Lyrae, if she could continue her
course in that direction without
ever stopping. It is a striking ex-
ample of how easily we may fail to

realize our knowledge when I say
that I have thought many a time
how deliciously one might pass
those millions of years in a journey
to that star, without its occurring to
me that we are actually making
that very journey at a speed com-
pared with which the motion of the
steamship is slow indeed.

Through every year, every hour,
every minute, of human history
from the first appearance of man on
earth, from the era of the builders
of the Pyramids, through the times
of Caesar and Hannibal, through
the period of every event that
history records, not merely our
earth, but the sun and the whole
solar system with it, have been
speeding their way toward the star
of which I speak on a journey of
which we know neither the begin-
ning nor the end. During every
clock-beat through which humanity
has existed, it has moved on this
journey by an amount which we
cannot specify more exactly than
to say that it is probably between
five and nine miles per second. We
are at this moment thousands of
miles nearer to Vega than we were
a few minutes ago, when I began
this article, and through every
future moment, for untold thousands
of years to come, the earth will be
nearer that star, or nearer to the
place where the star now is, by
hundreds of miles for every minute
of time to come and gone.

When shall we get there? Probably
in less than a million of
years; perhaps in half a million.
We cannot tell exactly, but get
there we must, if the laws of nature
and the laws of motion continue as
they are. To attain to the stars
the seemingly vain wish of the
philosopher, but the whole human
race is, in a certain sense, realizing
this wish as rapidly as a speed of
six or eight miles a second can
bring it about.—*Professor Newcomb
in Science.*

A STRANGE CASE.

A MINNESOTA RIP VAN WINKLE WHO
HAS SLEPT TWENTY YEARS AND
IS STILL AT IT.

Near the city of St. Charles,
Minn., resides a sleeping wonder in
the person of Herman Harms, who
has spent nearly every hour during
the last eighteen or twenty years in
unconscious slumber. Mr. Harms
has quite a family of adult children,
and although much money has been
spent for the best of medical treat-
ment and advice, no doctor has yet
been found who has been able to
break the spell under which the
sleeper rests. He is given food by
tender hands, but seems only partially
aroused when being fed, and on
being left alone at once again
drops off to sleep. In fact, it is so
hard to arouse him that a great part
of his food has to be administered
in liquid form.

Providence Independent

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY.

COLLEGEVILLE, MONTGOMERY CO., PA.

E. S. MOSER, Editor and Proprietor.

Thursday, Jan'y 6, 1898

SENATOR Saylor is still confident that President McKinley will appoint him consul to Mantanza. The Senator has at least sufficient reason to be more hopeful of an official trip to Mantanza, or of rest in some other haven, than of another term in the Pennsylvania Senate!

THE Harleysville News was twelve years old last week. Though quite a youngster in years, the News has come to be an interesting factor in Montgomery journalism. It is not afraid of its own shadow in day-time and is not apt to see ghosts at night. We bespeak still further success for Editor Haldeman and his News.

THE floor of a large hall in London, Ontario, in which a municipal election was being held, collapsed Monday night. One hundred and fifty persons were hurled twenty feet, and five hundred others struggled madly to escape. At midnight twenty dead bodies had been taken from the wrecked building and identified. The number killed may reach thirty.

SCIENTISTS are manifesting great interest in the eclipse of the sun to occur on February 22d, 1898, which will be total in India along a strip of land some eighty miles in width and which passes across India northeasterly from Bombay to Darjeeling. For two minutes at high noon the sun's light will be extinguished, during which brief interval the scientists, gazing through their telescopes, hope to make important discoveries.

A RECENT census of the children in Philadelphia between the ages of 6 and 16 shows a total of 136,375. The pupils of all ages, from 6 to 21 years, in public schools of that city, at the close of 1896 was 138,535, or 57,840 less than the number between 6 and 16, as shown by the recent census. It appears to be in evidence that the compulsory education law is of little consequence in Philadelphia, as well as in many other sections of the State.

A DISPATCH from Exeter, N. H., dated January 2, reads: Vibrations of the earth, following a long noise as if of a great explosion a long way off, awoke the inhabitants of this town at 5 o'clock this morning. The noise was two or three seconds long and the trembling of the ground much longer. Houses were shaken, windows rattled, and much commotion indoors was caused, sufficient in most cases to awaken the sleepers. Similar reports come from other towns above here.

THE Norristown Daily Herald has introduced more improved machinery, has reduced the price of subscription from two cents to one cent per copy, it presents a new heading, and seems to have concluded to completely outstrip in 1898 all previous strokes of enterprise. Both as to mechanical and literary excellence the Herald is among the foremost daily papers of the State. The editor and proprietor, Morgan R. Wills, ought to grow happier as he grows older, in contemplating the success of his excellent newspaper.

We have at hand a copy of the November number of the *Granite Monthly*, a New Hampshire magazine, which contains a comprehensive, lucidly written, and highly interesting contribution from the pen of Mr. Henry Robinson, in which the writer succinctly describes the varied accomplishments and charming personal characteristics of Mr. Charles Marcellus. The scholar, litterateur, retired journalist, and "statesman unique in never having sought or held public office." From the article we learn that Mr. Marcellus has been, during his long and useful career, in personal touch with such men as Thurlow Weed, of New York, General Gilman Marston, the poet John G. Whittier, James T. Fields, Nathaniel Hawthorne, William D. Tucknor, the Right Reverend Phillips Brooks, Daniel Parry Lippincott, Honorable Roscoe Conkling, Governor Charles H. Bell, the late President Chester A. Arthur, John Sherman, the late Hamilton Fish, and many other distinguished public men. Mr. Marcellus was born in Philadelphia. In 1862, at the age of 16, he was a student at Freeland Seminary, now Ursinus College, this borough. He subsequently attended the Norwich University and later became identified with the publishing house of Tucknor & Fields. For several years he held a prominent and influential place in New York politics, as editor and publisher of the *Utica Daily Freeman* and the *Kingston Weekly Journal*. For a number of years he was editor of the *News-Letter*, of Exeter, N. H., where he at present resides.

SINCE Senator Quay has moved to Allegheny the Honorable Chris Magee might be persuaded to go to Mexico!

THE Norristown Herald correctly observes: "The announcement that the grade crossing at Collegeville will not be taken to the Supreme Court by the railroad authorities, but the matter will be adjusted at once between the contestants, is welcome to the public. Some means should be found to adjust all similar controversies speedily, in order that the public interests may not suffer. Both means of communication, electricity and steam, are a necessity to the people, and the fact may as well be recognized."

THE rather surprising information is wired from Columbus, Ohio, that U. S. Senator Hanna may not be continued in office by the Legislature of that State. The combination of ten anti-Hanna Republicans, with the Democratic members, succeeded in organizing both branches of the legislature Monday in the interest of the opposition to the reelection of Senator Hanna by a vote of 56 to 52. In the apportionment of the chairmanship the Democrats got 28 in the house and the Republicans 13, that body having a Republican majority of 15. In the senate, which is a tie politically, the Democrats got 13 chairmanships and the Republicans 4. All this is accepted as evidence that when the crucial test is made on the Senatorial issue, Mr. Hanna's strength will be found wanting. Governor Bushnell has given it out that he owes Mr. Hanna no favors. Mr. Forsaker, another Republican of much prominence in the State, occupies about the same attitude. Mr. Hanna's defeat would be generally accepted as a very keen thrust at President McKinley's administration.

THE semi-centennial of Girard College, the greatest philanthropic institution—judged from the standpoint of practical beneficence—in the world, was celebrated in a manner becoming the importance of the event, last Monday. Fifty years ago, on the first Monday in January, 1848, Girard college opened its doors to 95 fatherless boys and started on the great work which its founder had so wisely and benevolently planned. Since then with each succeeding year the institution has steadily increased in scope and size, and the vast fund behind it has increased correspondingly, until there are now within its walls over 1,500 boys and \$26,000,000 in its treasury, instead of the \$7,000,000 left at the time of the founder's death. The ceremonies included addresses in the afternoon by Major Warwick, Congressman Marriot Brosius and others. In the evening President A. H. Fetterolf, Ph. D., LL. D., delivered an historical address. He was followed by Hon. Thomas Brackett Reed, Congressman from Maine and Speaker of the House, who eloquently reviewed the benevolence of the founder of the institution.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

From our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 31, 1897.—Some of the ablest men in Congress are carefully watching the development of the European grab game in China. They have no particular interest in whether China is controlled by Chinese or by Europeans, but they have a deep interest in the maintenance of the rights of the U. S. in China, which are now guaranteed by treaty, and they believe that this government should notify the powers interested that it will insist upon the maintenance of those treaty rights by any power or powers that may acquire Chinese territory. So far nobody has been able to ascertain whether this government has taken any steps looking towards the preservation of our treaty rights, commercial and otherwise, in China, but, unless satisfactory information on the subject shall be obtained before Congress re-assembles, it is probable that the information will be promptly called for by a resolution of the Senate.

Although President McKinley failed to endorse all of Secretary Gage's financial recommendations, in his annual message to Congress, the developments of the week have made it apparent that he has no objection to the active and aggressive fight that Secretary Gage is making in behalf of those recommendations. While it is not true, as was reported several days ago, that Secretary Gage tendered his resignation and that it was declined, it is known that he told the President he was willing to resign if his attitude on the financial question was embarrassing the administration, and that the President told him in effect to go ahead that he had no complaint to make. This is not likely to have any effect upon legislation, but it may have some effect upon the attitude of the silver republican Senators towards the administration.

The most sensational occurrence of holiday week in official circles was Commissioner Evans' wholesale denunciation of pension attorneys, of whom he said: "The most demoralizing feature of the pension system is the existence of 50,000 pension attorneys. The ordinary

pension attorney is worse than the most pestiferous vermin that ever invaded a hen roost. If there are frauds on the pension rolls they have been planted there by the pension attorney. There are good men engaged in the pension attorney business, but the majority of them remind me of that beautiful bird that sails through the air so gracefully, but which the laws prohibit killing. The government has continued to pay pension attorneys for soliciting business for thirty years. Enough of this business has been done. A law should be enacted that in the future no fee should be paid to any attorney or claim agent for any claimed fled for pensions. That would put an end to the pension scandals." Mr. Evans added to his attack on the pension attorneys by stating that several of his predecessors in the office of Commissioner of Pensions had entertained the same feelings towards them. The pension attorneys will fight back, but it will not be done as openly as this attack upon them.

Representative Dingley says the Ways and Means committee may report a bill at this session to refund the bonded debt of the United States with 2½ per cent gold bond. He says that the enactment of such a bill into law would save \$12,000,000 in interest each year, but admits that the chance of such a measure to get through would be very slim, owing to the number of men in Congress who prefer to have the government lose that \$12,000,000 a year rather than authorize the issue of gold bonds.

It is not probable that the government of the United States will make any speedy reply, if it replies at all, to the last refusal of Lord Salisbury to join in stopping open sea sealing. It is the general belief in Washington that the matter will be allowed to stand just where it is. Canada can catch the seals, but it cannot legally sell the skins in the United States, and by its attitude in this matter it has destroyed the little chance there was of its getting anything the line of commercial reciprocity from the United States. The British Ambassador has opened negotiations for a reciprocity treaty for the interchange of products of the United States with those of the British West Indies. President McKinley this week signed the bill prohibiting open sea sealing by citizens of the United States, and the importation of seal skins.

The President is displaying much interest in the response to his appeal to the people of the United States for donations of clothing, food, medicine and money for the poor of Cuba, and is so far well pleased. Many believe that the acceptance of this aid by Spain will prove the entering wedge to peaceful intervention by the United States in Cuba, although the Spanish minister in Washington insists that such an idea is ridiculous.

Representatives of the Canadian government have been in Washington this week making arrangements to render all possible aid to this government in its efforts to send food into the Klondike gold region.

A Whole Family Nearly Wiped Out by Fire and Flames.

New York, January 2, 1898.—Adolph Reich and Emma Reich, and their four children, aged 22, 15, 14, and 8 years, were killed by flames and smoke in a fire in Jersey City, early this morning. Several others were injured, and it may be that another member of the ill-fated family will die. He is the 19-year-old son, and his body is covered with burns. Henry A. Reich, 17 years old, managed to make his escape from the house with bad burns on the neck, face and hands, but he is not seriously injured. Adolph Reich's home was at 317 Germania avenue, near the Hudson county boulevard, in the Hudson city district. He was a real estate agent and well-to-do, living in a pleasant house of three stories. It is believed that the fire broke out from a heater in the basement, and it worked its way up to the third floor, where the sleeping apartments of the family were located.

TYRANNY IN THE ARMY.

THE CONDUCT OF SOME OFFICERS IS BECOMING UNBEARABLE.

From the Springfield Union.

Uncle Sam had better turn his attention to the army and eliminate some of the snobbishness and exclusiveness that pervades our military system. Army officers as a class are of the opinion that the earth was made for their exclusive use and was to be the soldier who crosses their path either in the line of duty or unthinkingly. It has reached a point now where a superior officer in the United States army is like the King—he can do no harm and no matter what his sins, he must be forgiven. Only a few weeks ago the country was scandalized from one end to the other by the trial of Captain Lovering, of Fort Sheridan, for brutality to a soldier in his command, but it was supposed that the incident was closed. However, it appears that the sore spot still exists. A day or two ago a sergeant who testified against the captain when called upon was reduced to the ranks and now a private has been discharged for the same reason. What are we building up in the army system? Is it to be a species of prison life with the officers for keepers and the soldiers for prisoners? Has it come to a pass where the private soldier must sacrifice his rights as a freeman to satisfy the petty spite of his superior officer? If captains and majors and colonels and generals are to become despots over

the men who are serving their country quite as well as they then it is the duty of the army of the United States should either be abolished or subjected to more humane rules.

WALKED IN HER SLEEP.

REMARKABLE SOMNAMBULISTIC PERFORMANCE OF A YOUNG WOMAN.

From the Syracuse Standard.

There has been much excitement and much discussion in Perry county over an account of the remarkable somnambulist of Miss Della Cosby, the 19-year-old daughter of A. B. Cosby, who lives near Grapevine, Kentucky. A few nights ago Miss Cosby retired, but fell asleep before she disrobed. She had been in her room but a short time when she walked out of the house and up the creek. None of the family saw her leave the house and did not discover she was gone until some time after. They were greatly alarmed and at once made a search for her. John Turner, who knew the girl well, said that he saw her walking up the creek, but said nothing to her. The friends of the family at once started in pursuit of her, but were compelled to return without her. Next all night they scoured the country, but none of them thought to keep directly up the creek and when she awoke in the early morning she found she was near the house of a friend of her father, which is ten miles from where she started. Her father's friend at once furnished her a horse and she went home. There was great rejoicing in the Cosby family when she was seen returning.

NEW JOURNALISM.

THE SCENE TO HAVE DAILY REHEARSAL IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

From the Utica Globe.

At the present pace of journalism we may expect to have the following scene enacted every day in the Utica Daily Herald:

Managing Editor—Is that fair murderess once more free?

Prison Reporter—Yes; got her out with a jimmy. Good story, two columns long and a scoop.

Managing Editor—Are arrangements made to mob the brute who assaulted that little girl?

Prison Reporter—Yes; got two hundred men engaged. We'll get the fellow at 11:30 to-night. The sheriff will make a false resistance, but he comes out.

Managing Editor—That's good stuff. Give it three columns and set the artist at work. Who's got the assignment of getting expressions of opinion from Governors on the tariff and feathering of the Spanish Minister?

Space-writer—Great Scott! I ain't that fellow been tarred and feathered yet? That was on the assignment book for the first thing this morning.

Tar Reporter—Yes, but the Spanish Minister raised his price, and wouldn't let us put on the tar until we paid it. I couldn't see his raise.

Managing Editor—Well, pay his price and dope him extra for his meanness. That must be done so the Governors can be interviewed for day after to-morrow. How's the report of the Cabinet meeting coming on?

Cabinet Reporter—Couldn't get a word from any of the cabinet officers.

Managing Editor (scornfully)—Say, you're a new man, ain't you?

Cabinet Reporter—Yes, sir.

Managing Editor—I thought so. What's seeing the Cabinet officers got to do with it? Give us a column on what they ought to say. Now, you fellow hustler! Boil all the telegraph news to a fine point, and remember, no local stories over three inches long, or unless it's a murder that we ferret out. It's twenty pages to-morrow, and all of them must be filled. Git!

PREACHING AND ACTING.

WE PROFESS ONE THING AND USUALLY DO NOT FORGET TO VIOLATE OUR OWN SERMONS.

From the Cleveland Plain-Dealer.

Two young men were seated in a downtown restaurant. Dinner had been ordered and the time when while was given to moralizing. One youth, wearing a self-complacent look, expressed himself thus: "I say, my boy, that lecture of Ingersoll's the other night was an insult to Christianity. I once had some admiration for his ability, but when he fails to give us Christians any credit, it either argues his senility or, incoherency. Ingersoll never admired the virtue of consistency anyhow. But say, isn't this the place to get a dinner? You know they do a big business at the bar. Just hear those glasses clink. That explains how a fellow can get such a good dinner for a trifle. Of course, I don't drink and never did. And now, that makes me think I have got to pay this pledge to-day."

Hereupon the speaker drew from his inside pocket a pledge for \$5 to the Anti-Saloon League, with the remark that it was a cause deserving the support of all Christian gentlemen. A little later the tongue of the speaker was rapturously testing the quality of a rich pudding with lots of brandy sauce over all.

"I don't subscribe to the Anti-Saloon League," said his commonplace companion, "though I think it is an excellent thing. I delight in a good lecture and believe Ingersoll has given many of them, but your remarks on temperance to recall the story of the fox and the cat. The fox and the cat went walking. As they journeyed they espied a wolf which had seized upon an innocent lamb. Said the fox: 'The wolf is depraved beyond redemption to eat innocent meat.' To which the cat purled assent. The travelers soon came to an old mill and the fox saw a chicken which he immediately secured, while the cat pounced upon a mouse and soon both were devouring their coveted morsels. Meanwhile a spider from his web in an old corner of the mill gave one look of disgust at the carnivorous hypocrites and went back and ate a fly.

But the temperance youth finished his brandy sauce just the same.

The January Open Court.

Professor Cornill in his "History of the People of Israel," now running in the Open Court, reaches in the January number that most inspiring and heroic period of Jewish history where the Maccabees wrest the independence of their people from the Syrian tyrants by whom they had been so long oppressed. Dr. Cornill's portrayal is as fascinating as a novel. The illustrated article of the number is the Dances of Death, by Dr. Paul Carus, who traces the Christian conception of death through the late Middle Ages and early Modern Times. The famous dance-death cuts of Klein Basel, Gross Basel, of the great artists Holbein and Weigel are reproduced in great profusion. One can trace more clearly in these illustrations the history of the death conception than in many large volumes. The frontispiece to the January Open Court is a reproduction of a handsome steel engraving of the great French mathematician Laplace, the story of whose life is also told in this number; there are also an appreciation of his works and a story of Napoleon's relation to science. (The Open Court Publishing Co., Chicago. \$3.00 annually.)

ONE OF TWO WAYS.

The bladder was created for one purpose, namely, a receptacle for the urine, and as such it is not liable to any form of disease except by one of two ways. The first way is from imperfect action of the kidneys. The second way is from careless local treatment of other diseases.

CHIEF CAUSE.

Unhealthy urine from unhealthy kidneys is the chief cause of bladder troubles. So the womb, like the bladder, was created for one purpose, and not doctored too much is not liable to weakness or disease, except in rare cases. It is situated back of and very close to the bladder, therefore any pain, disease or inconvenience manifested in the kidneys, back, bladder or urinary passage is often, by mistake, attributed to female weakness or womb trouble of some sort. If you need a medicine you should have the best. At drug stores fifty cents and one dollar. You may have sample bottle and pamphlet, both sent free by mail. Mention the *PROVIDENCE INDEPENDENT* and send your address to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Birmingham, N. Y. The proprietor of this paper guarantees the genuineness of this offer.

Shelled Nuts, Candied Fruits and All Table Delicacies.

The Imported at the price of Domestic.

We have surpassed ourselves in presenting for these holidays a variety of nuts and candied fruits.

PHILIP QUILLMAN, GROCERIES, CHINAWARE, DeKalb, just below Main St., NORRISTOWN.

Have You Waited?

For years past it has been customary for some people to wait till after Xmas for reduced prices. The successful business men find it profitable to meet as far as possible the views and wishes of the people. This week we are "taking stock" and, on the 3rd week of January we will offer a lot of broken sets of knives, forks and spoons of "Rogers brand" at exactly half price. You will see the lots in the window after this week. The sale will not commence until Monday morning, the 3rd week of January.

G. LANZ, THE JEWELER, 211 DeKalb St., - - Norristown, Pa.

Dull Mysterious Headaches,

headaches you can't account for. Do you ever have them? In many cases they result from defective eyesight. Our properly adjusted glasses will provide permanent relief. Examinations FREE. Moderate prices for glasses.

J. D. SALLADE, OPTICIAN, 16 East Main St., NORRISTOWN, PA.

A. Goldstein, -DEALER IN- Clothing & Gents' Furnishing Goods

HATS, CAPS, &c., 154 West Main Street, NORRISTOWN, PA. (Nearly Opposite Farmers' Hotel.)

Each customer will receive a coupon to the value of ten per cent. of cash purchase. The coupons are redeemable in silverware, furniture and other useful household necessities.

If you have anything to sell, advertise it in the Independent.

BRENDLINGER Coats and Capes

Now on Display.

You are invited to pay us a visit as we are satisfied that we are showing the most complete line of Ladies', Misses and Children's Coats and Wraps ever shown in the town, and the prices guaranteed as low as they ever were, regardless of the advance in price for raw material.

Brendlinger, - Norristown.

Fall Dress Goods

In quantity to give a wide range of choice. You are invited to visit the store. You will be entertained to inspect them.

Always Lowest Prices

Brendlinger, - Norristown.

Fall Styles of Carpets

from the leading makers are now ready for your selection. We bought in large quantities and in time to save the advance of prices for you and therefore for all the new Fall Patterns, Carpets, Linoleums, and Oil Cloths the

Prices are in our favor.

A special and serviceable bargain is now offered in the Carpet Department.

Wilton Rugs 95c.

We bought 940 of these rugs, hence the very low price. They are made up from the salesmen's samples, border patterns, and at regular prices are worth in quality \$2.50. But we wanted them for great value for you and here they are, only 95c. each.

Brendlinger, - Norristown.

Kid Gloves.

We are agents for the Favorite Continental and Patent Ideal Fastener Gloves, and in addition show a great variety of good quality and low priced Gloves.

I. H. Brendlinger, NORRISTOWN, PA.

Leading dealer in Dry Goods, Carpets, Trimmings, Ladies' Coats, Shirt Waists, 80 and 82 Main Street. 213 and 215 DeKalb Street.

W. P. Fenton -Has the Agency for-



PRATT'S POULTRY FOOD

25 and 50 Cent Packages.

Horse and Cattle Food.

6c. a lb. in 42 1-2 Pound Bags.

The very best Washing Machines for \$2.50 and \$3.00. Guaranteed to give entire satisfaction.

Also Demorest Sewing Machines, in oak or walnut; three drawers, only \$19.50.

Very large stock of Oil Cloths, 2 yds. wide, 60, 60 and 75 cents a yard. Remnants of Oil Cloth and Linoleum, yd. wide, 20, 25 and 35c. a yd.

Remnants of extra heavy Canton Flannel, 8c. a yd., worth 12c. Extra quality Quilted Cotton, 10 and 12 1/2c. lb. Remnants of Calico, 3, 4 and 5c. a yd.

Very nice brooms, 2 for 25c. Two Hoop Buckets, 2 for 25c.

Full line of Fred's Shoes and Boots for \$1, \$1.25 and \$1.50.

Selwyn's Hand-Knit Jackets, \$2.50 & \$3.00, others for \$1.25.

All kinds of Horse Blankets, 75c to \$3.00.

The Very Finest Groceries.—Syrup 20, 30, 40 and 40c. a gallon. Best Rice, 4 lbs. for 25c. Granulated Sugar, 5 1/2c. N. O. Grain Sugar, 5c. Two nice Fat Mackerel for 25c. Ginger Snaps, 5c. Cornmeal, Buckwheat Flour.

Fresh Canned always on hand. The best Tar Rope, 50c. lb. Car-load Salt just in.

W. P. FENTON, COLLEGEVILLE, PA.

COATS -AND- DRESS -GOODS

We make an extra display of these lines in order to impress you

First—That our coats are really the pick of this season's offerings.

Second—That our dress goods are of the most exclusive patterns.

Third—That our prices are based on the smallest possible profits for good merchandise which will bear the most rigid inspection.

We are daily receiving assortments of Underwear and Hosiery.

Fourth—That our coats are really the pick of this season's offerings.

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Fourth—That our coats are really the pick of this season's offerings.

Second—That our dress goods are of the most exclusive patterns.

Our Diarrhoea Mixture

Will cure you of Diarrhoea, Cholera Morbus, and all bowel troubles. TRY IT.

—SURE—CORN—CURE—

Ten Cents Per Bottle.

—SOLD AT—

CULBERT'S DRUG STORE, COLLEGEVILLE, PA.

Shoe News at Nyce's!

Women's Shoes made from Kid Skin with Kid Tips and Stout Soles, only \$3.00. Same Style and Quality with pat. tip, round or square toe, only \$3.00. Finer one, \$3.50 and \$3.00. Women's Shoes, Dong, kid, pat. tip or kid tip, D. E. E., at \$1.50; nice looking ones at \$1.25.

Men's Shoes: Winter Russes, Heavy Sole, Goodyear, hand sewed, only \$3.00. Winter Russes, Heavy Sole, \$3.00. Men's Black Shoes, Heavy or Light Sole, at \$1.75, \$2.00, \$3.00. Great Values.

H. L. NYCE, Main Street, Norristown, Pa. [OPPOSITE PUBLIC SQUARE.]

ALMOST AT HALF PRICE

Storm Coats, - Overcoats, Heavy Suits

Reduced Way Down in Price.

Now is Your Time to Get Bargains

—AT—

HERMAN WETZEL'S,

66 and 68 Main St., Norristown, Opp. Post Office.

66 and 68 Main St., Norristown, Opp. Post Office.

BEECHERS

Cater to the Retail Trade and do it right because we've had the Experience.

OUR PRICES

Beat the World!—Our Qualities are All Right, and that makes Selling Easy.

Are you one of the many who have their wants supplied with

SEASONABLE GOODS?

If not, come and be convinced that BEECHERS give you Bigger Bargains than you get elsewhere.

L. BEECHER & SON,

223 to 227 HIGH STREET, POTTSTOWN.

12no.

Has the Agency for—

IT COSTS NOTHING TO HAVE YOUR EYES EXAMINED.

By Dr. H. Z. PODZEST & CO., Optical Specialists, 113 NORTH NINTH ST. ABOVE ARCH, PHILA., PA.

They have had over fifteen years experience in all the various lines of Optical work, and assure complete satisfaction to every patron. Many ills, inconveniences and discomforts are caused by Eyes-Strain, which may be readily relieved if you consult their Specialist and have your Eyes Examined by him FREE. He will correctly advise you without cost, whether or not your eyes will give you relief. Should you need glasses the prices quoted are not equalled for Solid Gold Spectacles \$2.00; elsewhere \$25.00 the same grade of goods. Steel Spectacles 50c.; elsewhere \$1.00

COLLEGEVILLE MARBLE WORKS

H. L. SAYLOR, PROPRIETOR.

CEMETERY WORK IN MARBLE OR GRANITE

IN PLAIN AND ARTISTIC DESIGNS. Full stock of GRAY-STONE FLAGGING. All work guaranteed. The Lowest Prices.

Enterprise - Marble - Works.

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(Successor to D. T. Buckwalter.)

Monuments, Tombstones, OF ITALIAN OR AMERICAN MARBLE OR GRANITE.

In the Finest and Latest Designs, at Low Figures.

Every description of CEMETERY WORK, COPING, GALVANIZED RAILING, &c., promptly executed.

HOME AND ABROAD.

If all the anticipations of to-day could be fully realized to-morrow—

—Some people on this big, round planet, would lose their equilibrium through sheer need of disappointment.

The Perkiomen and Schuylkill rivers are ice-bound and extensive preparations are being made to harvest a large crop of ice.

A regular meeting of the Y. W. C. T. U. of York, will be held at the home of Mr. A. C. Landes, that place, next Saturday evening, January 8.

A meeting of the Perkiomen Valley Mutual Fire Insurance Company will be held at Shaw's hotel, this morning, to-morrow, January 7.

When a man is in love is the best time to get him to join church. —*Atchison Globe.*

Eugene A. Dambly, of the Transcript, Skipack, was in town Tuesday.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of attractive calendars from the Lansdale Reporter, the Norristown Register, and Irvin N. Morgantoe & Co., 14 South 6th street, Philadelphia.

In the exciting matter of capturing coons Lower Providence seems to be ahead of some of the territory lying this side of the Perkiomen. We mean to include, of course, the talent recently referred to by our Oaks correspondent.

J. H. Fisher sold at fair prices a number of W. Va. horses at public sale at Carver's hotel, Grater's Ford, last Saturday afternoon.

W. C. Rosenberry will open the horse market for the season at Skipack on Monday, January 10, 1898, when he will sell a car-load of Iowa horses at public sale.

Prof. Mensch, of Ursinus College gave a lecture at Cornell University recently.

Prof. Granville H. Meixell, A. M., of Midland College, Kansas, who graduated from Ursinus College a few years ago, is visiting friends in this vicinity.

At the Christmas service of the Sunday School of Trinity church this borough, the collection for Bethany Orphans' Home amounted to thirty-six dollars.

The Roberts Machine Co., of this borough, has the contract to put steam heat in the dwelling house and bakery of S. Hartzell, at Greenlane.

At Philadelphia the Mint last year 76,559,746 pieces of money, valued at \$51,071,582.51, were coined.

The Limerick township senior class will be examined at Linfield by Superintendent R. F. Hoffecker on January 15.

The residence of Andrew J. Hood, at Port Providence, was recently entered and robbed of a watch and chain, several suits of clothing and eatables.

Emanuel Poley, of Limerick Square, killed a porker that weighed 501 pounds.

We acknowledge the receipt of an invitation from Editor Haldeman of the Harleysville News for a "housewarming" of his new printing office on Saturday, January 8th.

The man who says he enjoys winter more than he does summer may not be a liar, but we have a right to our opinion. —*Atchison Globe.*

Caleb Heydrick, a well known resident of Springfield, this county, and a descendant of Baltazar Heydrick, one of the early Schuylkill immigrants, died on Saturday, aged ninety-two years.

The Controller of Luzerne county has caused somewhat of a sensation by surcharging a number of ex-county officials to the extent of \$28,000.

John T. Wagner, Esq., has purchased a property of P. M. Hunsicker, of Ironbridge, for \$3000. Mr. Wagner will take possession in the spring.

Philadelphia Markets.

Winter bran, \$13.50 @ 14.50; flour, \$3.00 to \$5.10; rye flour, \$2.90; wheat, 96¢ to 96½¢; corn, 34¢; oats, 29¢; butter, 19 to 20¢; poultry, live, 90¢ to 95¢; dressed, 90¢ to 95¢; timothy hay, 60¢ to 65¢; mixed, 50¢ to 60¢; straw, 40¢ to 50¢; beef cattle, 40¢ to 45¢; sheep, 34¢ to 35¢; lambs, 54¢ to 60¢; hogs, western, 50¢ to 55¢.

An Afflicted Family.

The family of Augustus Grubb, in East Vincent, near Kimberton, Pa., continues to be sorely afflicted, and even now being down with typhoid fever. Only one member of the afflicted family, a little girl, has escaped the dread disease. A trained nurse from the Reading hospital still continues to minister to the afflicted ones. It is thought the fever came from using water when it is entirely closed. Deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and the tube restored to the normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by deafness, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces. We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of deafness (caused by catarrh) not cured by taking Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free. F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O.

Deafness Cannot be Cured

By local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure Deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a running sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed Deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and the tube restored to the normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by deafness, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces. We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of deafness (caused by catarrh) not cured by taking Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free. F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O.

Luther League.

A business meeting of the Luther League, Trappe, will be held this (Thursday) evening at 7.30. A full attendance of members is desired.

Rescued.

Samuel Clare, Clarence Powers, and Patrick Kennedy broke through the ice in the middle of the Schuylkill river near Norristown, Thursday. They were rescued, after an hour's effort, by John Wilson.

Granite Monument.

H. L. Saylor, of the Marble and Granite Works, this borough, has placed an attractive monument in the burial lot of A. K. Hunsicker in Trinity church cemetery. The base and shaft aggregate fourteen feet in height.

Her Dress Caught Fire.

Tuesday morning Mrs. Charles Conway, of this borough, was engaged stirring the contents of a large kettle when her dress became ignited from the burning wood under the kettle. Prompt efforts saved the lady from being seriously, if not fatally, burned. As it was, her left hand was blistered and her hair slightly singed.

Meeting of County Commissioners.

On Monday the County Commissioners met at the Court House, Norristown, and re-elected Charles Reed president of the board; Wm. F. Solly, Esq., solicitor; Daniel Hittner, clerk; Geo. K. Yeakle, Charles O'Neill and Daniel Stewart, transcribers.

New Prothonotary.

Prothonotary-elect M. S. Kulp assumed his duties in the County Court House Monday morning. Abraham S. Hallman, deputy under Prothonotary Nyce, has been appointed Mr. Kulp's deputy. Louis M. Kelly, of Norristown, has been appointed clerk in the place of William McElhaney, of Lower Merion. Mr. Kulp's solicitor will be James B. Holland, Esq.

Railroad Station Robbed.

The ticket office and station of the P. S. V. Railroad at Mount Pleasant were open early Friday morning and robbed for the fourth time in the last few months. Money and other valuables were stolen. During the previous night a freight car, near the same station, was forced open and a barrel of whiskey rolled from the car into the Schuylkill canal.

Killed While Threshing.

Marie Maule, 23 years old, was almost instantly killed on the farm of his father, Nathan Maule, Glenover, Chester county, on Thursday. He was assisting to thresh, an old style tread power being employed. While the machine was in operation the belt flew off, followed quickly by the bursting of the fly wheel. A portion of the latter struck young Maule on the head with terrific force, crushing in his skull. He lived but a short time.

FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

A Farmers' Institute is in session at Phoenixville to-day. Much interest is being taken in its proceedings.

A similar Institute will be held in the court house, Norristown, on January 19 and 20. S. Powell Childs and Hon. Jason Sexton are in charge of the program. Frens Styer, Esq., will open the proceedings with an address of welcome, to which Judge Hoover will respond. Farmers' Institutes, where held, should be largely attended, for they furnish much valuable information to farmers and others.

RELIGIOUS.

Episcopal service at St. James', Evansburg, every Sunday at 10.30 a. m., Sunday School, 2 p. m. Also a service at Royersford at 3 p. m. Rev. A. J. Barrow, rector.

Augustus Lutheran church, Trappe. Services at 10 a. m. next Sunday and 7.30 p. m. All invited.

St. Luke's Reformed Church, Trappe, Rev. S. L. Messinger, pastor. Preaching every Sunday at 10.30 a. m. and 7.30 p. m. Sunday School at 9 a. m. Y. P. S. C. E. prayer-meeting on Sunday evening at 6.30 o'clock. Congregational prayer-meeting on Wednesday evening at 7.30. Catechetical class at 2 p. m. and Junior C. E. prayer-meeting at 3 p. m., on Saturday. All are cordially invited to attend the services.

Evansburg M. E. church, Rev. J. S. Tomlinson, pastor. Sunday school at 9.45 a. m. Preaching, Sunday, at 10.45 a. m. and 8 p. m. Epworth League service Sunday evening at 7.30 o'clock. Prayer and class meeting on Thursday evening at 7.45 o'clock. A cordial invitation is extended to all to attend these services.

Ironbridge: No preaching next Sabbath evening. Sabbath School at 2 o'clock p. m.; Christian Endeavor at 7 p. m. All are invited to every meeting. Strangers welcomed.

St. Paul's Memorial Protestant Episcopal church, Oaks Station. Rev. Benj. J. Douglass, rector. Sunday services at 10.45 o'clock a. m. and at 3.30 p. m. Sunday School at 2.30 p. m. The seats are free and a cordial welcome is extended to all persons to attend the services of the church. "The Spirit and the Bride, say Come." Rev. XXII, 17.

Trappe United Evangelical church. Revival service every night this week. Sunday School at 2 p. m. on Sunday. Service in the evening. All are cordially invited attend. Rev. J. Max Longford, pastor.

W. C. T. U.

The Collegeville W. C. T. U. will hold its regular monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. E. A. Krusen, this (Thursday) afternoon, January 6, at half after two.

Trolley Companies May Consolidate.

Residents of Norristown, Roxborough and Manayunk and vicinity are interested in the reported consolidation of the Wissahickon and Manayunk Electric Road and the Roxborough, Chestnut Hill and Norristown Traction Company.

Woman Suffrage.

A regular meeting of the Woman Suffrage Association of Montgomery county will be held at the home of Mrs. E. S. Moser on Fifth avenue, this borough. We trust a goodly number of our citizens will be present. There are two sides to every question. Come, no matter what your opinions.

A Bit of Sarcasm.

An exchange says an editor in a neighboring town sarcastically remarks that he wants to buy a sack of flour, a pair of shoes and a hat, and he is ready to receive the lowest bids for the same. He says that some of his own town people want him that way when they want printing to the amount of \$2 or \$3 done.

New Trial Refused.

The court, Monday, refused a new trial to Officer Greer, of Conshohocken, who was convicted at October court of involuntary manslaughter, in shooting Patrick Palsinger, a fleeing prisoner, last July. He will be sentenced January 17. It is expected a petition from citizens of Conshohocken will be presented, praying the court to exercise as much leniency as possible.

Making Garments for the Orphans.

The Work Committee of the Ladies' Aid Society of Trinity Reformed church, this borough, is at present making garments for the orphans at Bethany. On Tuesday afternoon and evening of this week, the committee and others to the number of twenty-five, met in Fenton's hall, a place so well suited for so large a company and for such a work of practical benevolence. This committee will also make clothing for any poor children in the neighborhood, if such there are and the same are made known to them.

Some Court House Business at Norristown During 1897.

During the year 53 persons were declared insane. Nine divorces were granted. There were 79 road and other juries appointed. Coroner Kurtz had eighty-eight inquests. The births reported by Assessors were 2750 and the deaths 1700. Among the appointments by the court for the year were 7 constables, 11 deputy constables, 9 tax collectors and 1 supervisor. The number of soldiers' licenses issued was 13. The marriage licenses issued amounted in the aggregate to 770. In the Register of Wills' office 470 letters were granted, 263 administrations and 207 testamentary.

A Prosperous Year.

The Norristown Title, Trust and Safe Deposit Company experienced increasing prosperity during the year 1897. A three-per-cent. dividend was declared December 29. A statement of the affairs of the Company at the close of business, December 31, shows a decided increase in the surplus and undivided profits in addition to the two dividends declared and paid during the year. The deposits in the saving fund have increased from \$108,300.24 in 1896 to \$480,802.94 in 1897. The deposits in the active account from \$77,819.01 to \$251,780.42. The investments from \$276,361.66 to \$375,589.63. The Trust Department also shows great progress during the year. The company is guardian for 243 miners, trustee in 93 estates, executor and administrator of nine estates. The total amount of money represented by these several trusts aggregated \$429,362.56, showing an increase over the corresponding period of last year of \$75,412.57.

MATRIMONY.

December 21st, 1897, at the parsonage, Collegeville, by Rev. J. H. Hendricks, Mr. Lewis M. Vandervelde and Miss Emma Edith Kirtner, both of Upper Providence, near Royersford, Pa.

December 23d, at the parsonage, Collegeville, by Rev. J. H. Hendricks, Mr. Edwin S. Litka and Miss Sallie W. Buckwalter, both of York, Montgomery county.

December 30th, at the residence of the bride's mother, by Rev. J. H. Hendricks, Mr. Amos T. Wisniewski and Miss Minnie Kirtner, daughter of the late Daniel Kratz, of Lucon, both of Montgomery county.

Saturday, December 21, Mr. J. W. Triney, of Linfield, was married to Miss Emma Kulp, of Limerick Centre, by Rev. K. B. Werner, of Schuylkill.

A BOROUGH LOSES A CASE.

\$1,200 FOR A BROKEN LEG.

Last week Mrs. Rebecca Nudd, of Philadelphia, was awarded \$1,200 in the Common Pleas Court at Media, Delaware county, against the borough of Lansdowne. Mrs. Nudd, a little over a year ago, went out from the city to see her cousin at Lansdowne. On returning home after dark, she alighted from a carriage at the railroad station and had gone but a few steps when she stepped into a hole in the pavement and broke her leg. The plaintiff said that the night was dark and to the best of her recollection the electric light in the locality was entirely out. The defendant borough attempted to prove that Mrs. Nudd had been negligent, and that the hole or gutter had never been considered dangerous, and that there was sufficient light there to allow the hole to have been seen by pedestrians.

The Verdict of a Coroner's Jury.

A jury, empaneled by Coroner M. R. Kurtz, Saturday afternoon, investigated the killing of Mordcai Galloway, the conductor who was shot on a trolley car, December 26, and rendered a verdict that M. R. Galloway came to his death by gunshot and hemorrhage due to a gunshot wound by a person who boarded trolley car No. 18, near Swedeland, etc. No reference was made to Martin Connor, the tramp who is in jail charged with having committed the murder.

Barn and Live Stock Destroyed by Fire.

The stone barn of Charles T. Miller, in Limerick township, occupied by his son Henry T. Miller, was destroyed by fire Tuesday night of last week, together with all the contents—2 horses, 5 cows, 2 calves, farming implements, hay, cornfodder, etc. About 9.45 p. m. the family were making preparations to retire when Mrs. Miller thought she heard the bellowing of the cattle and looking toward the barn she was horrified to see flames bursting from the structure, and immediately gave an alarm. Loss: \$1200; contents of barn not insured.

Ladies' Aid Society.

The social committee of the Ladies' Aid Society of Trinity Reformed church presented the following program at the regular meeting on Monday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Hobson: Piano Duet, Misses Hendricks and Robison; Recitation Miss Carrie Kerschner; Piano Solo, Miss Minerva Weinberger; Recitation, Mr. Forrest Bickel; Mandolin Solo, Miss Frances Moser; Recitation, Miss Ella Price. After the program was rendered the remainder of the evening was pleasantly spent in playing games. The February meeting will be held at Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Hobson's.

FROM PROVIDENCE SQUARE AND VICINITY.

The farmers are hauling ice from the Skipack. Henry Fegley is filling the ice house at the store with clear ice 7½ inches thick.

During the frigid weather the thermometer at the store registered as low as 8 degrees.

Our sick folks, Miss Belle Cole and Mrs. W. E. Johnson, have almost regained their usual health.

Will Wanner is nursing a very sore finger.

Samuel C. Detwiler, farmer and butcher, is lying in a critical condition. His left side is paralyzed.

Mr. and Mrs. Winfield Place and daughter were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. John K. Schwenk on Sunday.

Miss Maize D. Truckess is spending her holiday vacation at home.

THE REAPER DEATH.

Annie, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Rambo, formerly of Lower Providence, now of Philadelphia, died of pneumonia at the home of her parents in that city, Saturday night, aged 20 years. The young lady was taken ill with a severe cold on Christmas day. The numerous friends of Mr. and Mrs. Rambo in this section keenly sympathize with them in their sad bereavement. The funeral was held yesterday (Wednesday) Services at Augustus Lutheran church and cemetery, Trappe, undertaker J. S. Kepler in charge.

Morris S., son of Mr. and Mrs. John Yocum, of near Fairview Village, died of pneumonia after a brief illness, Sunday afternoon, aged about 21 years.

Mrs. Shade, relict of the late Dr. D. S. Shade of Royersford, died at her home in Philadelphia last Thursday. The deceased was a sister to Mrs. H. K. Schwenk, of Philadelphia, and had a number of relatives in this section of the county. The funeral was held Friday forenoon. Services at Augustus Lutheran church and cemetery, Trappe.

Mrs. David S. Heebner, of Lansdale, died suddenly about 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon at an advanced age. Mrs. Heebner had a large acquaintance throughout Worcester and other townships.

Mrs. Amanda Weddell, aged about 73 years, widow of Rev. A. J. Weddell who officiated for many years at the Lutheran Church of the Trinity, Norristown, died Friday morning at Charity Hospital. She is survived by one son, Charles Weddell.

Philena, widow of Benjamin Brownback, died last Thursday at the home of her adopted daughter Mrs. Botts, in Skipack township, east of Grater's Ford, aged 62 years. Death was due to a complication of diseases. She formerly resided with her daughter and son-in-law at Limerick Square. The funeral was held Tuesday afternoon. Interment at St. Luke's Reformed cemetery, Trappe, undertaker J. S. Kepler, in charge.

Emanuel Strunk, son-in-law of the late John Fry, deceased, of Trappe, died in Philadelphia last Thursday, aged 67 years. A wife survives. The funeral was held Sunday. The remains were brought to Collegeville on the morning train and were conveyed in undertaker Kepler's hearse to Augustus Lutheran church, Trappe, where service was held and interment made.

Harry Fulmer died suddenly of heart disease, in Manayunk, Thursday of last week, aged about 70 years. He leaves one daughter, Ida Fulmer, of Lower Providence. The funeral was held Monday afternoon. Interment at Green Tree, Upper Providence. Undertaker J. L. Bechtel, of this borough, was in charge.

John Gunsenhouse, aged 26 years, died of typhoid fever, at Charity Hospital, Norristown, yesterday morning. Two brothers and one sister survive. One of the brothers, Ellwood, resides in Lower Providence. Funeral service and interment at Lower Hill church, Chester county.

ALMSHOUSE AFFAIRS.

RECENT MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS. ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR SUMMED UP. OLD OFFICIALS RETAINED.

The last regular meeting of the Directors of the Poor for the year 1897 was held at the Alms House last Thursday, when orders for the payment of bills were granted, amounting to \$3162.25. Steward Alderfer's receipts for the month footed up \$715.35; expenditures, \$66.25. Number of inmates—male, 143; female, 35; total, 178. Monday morning the Directors again convened. The clerk and solicitor, E. E. Long, Esq., submitted report showing that the orders granted during the year 1897 amounted to \$2,355.59; total receipts at the Alms House, \$4678.03. The Steward reported that he had expended \$683.29 for sundry items. The Alms House payroll amounted to \$3978.82. The Directors reorganized for the year 1898 by electing Franklin E. B. Schreiner who was re-elected last fall for a period of three years, as president of the board. Wm. H. Kuder, of Norristown, who was elected last fall for one year, and who is evidently no novice in business affairs, and William Shepard, are the other directors. At the meeting, Monday, the Directors discharged some routine business and re-elected the old officials of the Institution, as follows, to serve for another year: Steward, A. D. Alderfer; Matron, Mrs. A. D. Alderfer; Clerk and Solicitor, E. E. Long, Esq.; Physician, Dr. M. J. Weber; Engineer, Benjamin A. Groff; Farmer, Owen S. Moyer; assistant farmer, Jacob Kulp; Watchman, J. Curry; Housekeeper, James Conrad; Women's nurse, Laura E. McFarland. The resignation of Ross Hendricks, as seamstress, was presented and accepted. It was decided not to appoint a seamstress at present. It was also decided that all salaries remain the same. The contract for out-door medical assistance in Bridgeport was awarded to Dr. A. C. Ellerhsaw for \$50 for six months. The Directors are receiving plans and specifications for a grain shed and stable, 50x32 feet, that will be reared as soon as the weather will permit. * * * The crops on the Alms House farm last season were enormous, to which reference has been made in the *Luxuriant*. * * * After a fair test, involving a sufficient length of time, it is clearly demonstrated that the change made some years ago from stock cattle to milk cows was a wise movement. The money received from the sale of butter and cream, of calves, the value of fat cows slaughtered and consumed at the Institution, and the value of the skimmed milk fed to scores of porkers, as compared with the previous method of purchasing, fattening, and selling steers, leaves no room to question the advantages on the score of profit, derived from the plan of keeping a thriving dairy on the Alms House farm. * * * Steward Alderfer takes much pride in looking closely after the internal affairs of the institution, and there is evidence all about the Alms House premises to show that he is discharging his duties well. * * * The repainting and graining of the wood work of the hall, sitting room, dining room, and Director's room, added much to the appearance of a part of the main building.

THE REAL ESTATE MARKET.

Last Thursday James R. Weikel, administrator, sold at public sale the farm belonging to the estate of the late John D. Alderfer, deceased, in Perkiomen township to Jonas Fisher for \$3610. The farm is located near Grater's Ford and comprises 80 acres of land and substantial improvements.

E. Espenship, of Worcester, recently sold his farm of 23 acres in Lower Providence township, near this borough, to Wilson Price, of Upper Providence, for \$3000.

The Press League Banquet.

The annual meeting of the Press League of Bucks and Montgomery counties will be held in the parlors of Lewis G. Stritzinger, Norristown, Saturday evening, January 22, 1898. There will be a business session, commencing at 7.45, at which time the annual election of officers will take place, new members will be elected, and other matters pertaining to the organization accepted. Among those who have accepted are the following to be present: guests of the League are the Hon. Aaron S. Swartz, president, judge of Montgomery county; Hon. Henry K. Weand, additional judge of Montgomery county; Hon. Harman Yerkes, judge of the courts of Bucks county, and Hon. Irving P. Wanger, Congressman of the Seventh district of Pennsylvania. The League is a peace-loving organization, and cannot go out night night without smiling on the muzzle of a revolver, with the demand, hands up, would it not be an act of charity to shoot every tramp and bum, and put every suspicious character in pillory for a time. We read of men going around doing good in those countries that produced learned men, statesmen and warriors, and should not the same punishment be inflicted on the men who have no visible means of support and go about terrorizing the community.

The Christmas tree at St. Paul's Memorial Sunday school room was a magnificent one. Sugar plums, oranges, cards, and pretty books, and for the best attendance of scholars in their classes, were presented with photographs of the Sunday school building. Miss Hall presented each scholar of her class with a very pretty floral calendar.

Rev. Mr. Douglass and Caleb Cresson, Jr. made addresses, while our eloquentist rendered a story of Santa Claus in fine effect. Frank Cresson assisted in the musical numbers with his clarinet, which tended to make everything happy and harmonious.

There will be an eclipse of the moon this Friday evening at 6.47 o'clock.

James Meyers, son of Rev. J. T. Meyers, of Green Tree, has gone to attend school at Huntingdon, Pa.

The loaded cars in coal trains on the Pennsylvania R. R. have a deep coating of snow on them, which

Fire Company Officials Elected.

At a meeting of the Collegeville Fire Company held Monday evening, the accounts for the year 1897 were reviewed. The Company started the new year with a balance of \$225 in the Treasury—not a large sum; but taking into account various expenditures made during the year, including the cost of removing the Company's building to its present site, even a small sum on the right side of the ledger at the beginning of another year is to be fully appreciated. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: president, G. Z. Vanderville; Vice-President, Frank H. Gristock; Financial Secretary, J. M. Zimmerman; Secretary, Raymond H. Grater; Treasurer, James L. Paist; Foreman of the Engine, Wilson Underkoffler; first assistant, F. W. Scheuren; second assistant, Jacob Bolton; Foreman of Hook and Ladder Truck, J. M. Zimmerman; assistant, Charles E. Vanderville; Trustees: Geo. Z. Vanderville, Horace Rimby, Wilson Underkoffler.

FROM TRAPPE.

A regular meeting of Town Council was held in Captain E. M. Fulmer's office, Monday evening. The usual routine business was transacted. Orders were granted for the payment of bills due, including those for crushed stone and labor. The Treasurer reported a balance in the Treasury of \$268, and \$171 in the hands of the tax collector.

J. B. Smoyer, proprietor of Lamb hotel, had his ice house filled on Monday.

The revival meetings in the United Evangelical church continue. Thus far one conversion has been made.

Gravel has been placed about the public school building. During the coming season of mud this improvement will be appreciated by the children.

During the Thanksgiving and Christmas periods of '97 E. U. Wismer, dealer in milk and farm produce, disposed of about seventy turkeys in Trappe and Collegeville.

At the annual election of officers in the Grace U. E. church, this borough, the following officers were elected: Superintendent, F. B. Rushong; Assistant Superintendent, A. Buckwalter; Secretary, H. U. Wismer; Treasurer, S. Gross Fry; Librarian, Miss Maggie Poley; Organist, Miss F. Rushong.

FROM OAKS.

Friday night of last week was a scorcher, and people who lived in paste-board houses suffered from the cold winds. It was the weather king's jubilee, combined with the ovation given in honor of the advent of young Mr. 1898, and it was a perfect one in all its appointments.

The employees of the McAvoy Brick Works who live in Port Providence and generally cross the river to their work, were forced to walk around by Phoenixville to cross the bridge at Perkiomen, to get to their work, as the river was frozen over—the ice too thin to bear a man and too thick to get through with a batteau, though the boys crossed on the ice all right.

The river at Browsers' is frozen over, but it is the roughest kind of ice, resembling illustrations of ice floes in Peary and Nansen lands.

Dr. Gumbes filled his ice house with ice from bayou Snyder, on the Perkiomen creek. Most generally the basin, as we know it, at Browsers', afforded a good place for securing a good ice crop; but the water was drawn off the canal to repair damages to the bank at Port Providence, and has never been put in again, although the water has been kept in the canal until Fred. Wagner filled his ice house heretofore.

The banquet given by the Musical Club on Monday night one week ago was a nice affair, and is to be repeated at some future time.

Harmony does not prevail in the ranks of the Upper Providence Republican Club.

Three or four tramps called at Wm. Chambers' residence, situated on the alms house highway, to get something to eat on New Year's night. Mr. Chambers and his hired man was not about; had gone to the store. The tramps gave the tramps something to eat and then rushed to a neighbor's and demanded her husband, and other help

RAILROADS.
Philadelphia & Reading Railway
Engines Burn Hard Coal—No Smoke
IN EFFECT SEPTEMBER 1, 1897.
Trains Leave Collegeville.
FOR PERKIMEN JUNCTION, BRIDGEPORT AND PHILADELPHIA—Week days—6:29, 8:30 a. m.; 12:45, 5:01 p. m. Sundays—6:39 a. m.; 7:42 p. m.
FOR ALLENTOWN—Week days—9:06, 10:17 a. m.; 3:22, 5:11 p. m. Sundays—8:30 a. m.; 7:42 p. m.
Trains For Collegeville.
LEAVE PHILADELPHIA—Week days—7:45, 9:08 a. m.; 1:42, 4:01, 5:37 p. m. Sundays—7:00 a. m.; 6:15 p. m.
LEAVE BRIDGEPORT—Week days—8:30, 9:50 a. m.; 3:30, 4:44, 6:20 p. m. Sundays—7:47 a. m.; 7:04 p. m.
LEAVE PERKIMEN JUNCTION—Week days—8:50, 10:05 a. m.; 3:50, 5:00, 6:38 p. m. Sundays—8:13 a. m.; 7:28 p. m.
LEAVE ALLENTOWN—Week days—4:25, 7:15, 10:50 a. m.; 3:33 p. m. Sunday—4:35 a. m.; 4:35 p. m.
ATLANTIC CITY DIVISION.
Leave Philadelphia, Chestnut Street Wharf and South Street Wharf for Atlantic City, Week days—Express, 9:00, 10:45 a. m.; 3:00, 5:00, 6:30 p. m. Accom., 8:00 a. m.; 5:00, 6:30 p. m. Sundays—Express, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00 a. m.; Accom., 8:00 a. m.; 4:45 p. m. Leave Atlantic City Depot: Week days—Express, 7:00, 7:45, 9:00 a. m.; 3:30, 5:30, 6:30 p. m. Accom., 4:25, 8:15 a. m.; 4:05 p. m. Sundays—Express, 4:00, 6:00, 7:30 p. m. Accom., 7:15 a. m.; 5:05 p. m.
Parlor cars on all express trains.

Furniture
Fresh From the Factories, now on Exhibition at the
COLLEGEVILLE Furniture Warerooms!
We are now prepared to offer our customers goods at prices never before heard of.
Our line of Chamber Suits, at prices ranging from \$12 to \$50, are the best in the market, and are well worth inspection.
Parlor Suits in Hair Cloth, Brocade and Silk Tapestry, from \$15 to \$50, are hard to be equalled.
Sideboards, from \$8.50 to \$30, in Solid Oak, fancy tops and plate glasses, are the finest.
Dining Room Chairs, Fancy Rockers, Lounges, Couches, Hall Racks and Fancy Book Cases, that cannot fail to attract your attention, both in quality and price.
We carry a full line of Rugs, Carpet Sweepers, Toilet Sets, Fancy Lamps, Dinner and Tea Sets.
Bed Springs, Mattresses, Pillows, Bolsters, Featherbeds, and Bedding of all kinds.
Our line of Carpets is complete. Best Ingrain at 50 cents; good at 40 cents; fair at 30 cents.
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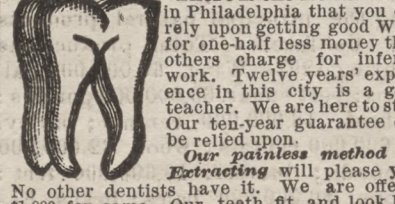
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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.
ALL AROUND THE FARM.
Every boy on the farm should be given a young animal to raise for himself, he to attend to it and be induced to take an interest in its progress. He will thus early become fond of animals and of farming, and will be more reconciled to farm life when he is grown. The boy who leaves the farm for the city is the one who has never had any opportunities and looks upon farming as drudgery. Labor becomes a pleasure when there is something to strive for, and the early education of the boy on the farm should be by giving him an interest in something. All children love young stock.
To keep up a supply of vinegar in the barrel add cider to the barrel every year. The cider will be converted into vinegar much sooner when added to a small quantity of vinegar in the barrel than when it is placed aside in a new barrel to ferment. Vinegar begins to weaken with age and the addition of cider restores its acidity in a short time.
Cabbages are usually wintered by burying the heads in ditches. A better way is to put the roots in trenches, the heads close together and slanting, so as to shed any rain that may get to them. Cover the heads with straw or salt hay, and then use boards. If the cabbages are stored under a shed no boards will be required. When the heads are buried they begin to rot as soon as the ground thaws, but in this manner the heads can be cut off as wanted and the stalks (which are alive) will send out shoots or sprouts in early spring, to be used as greens. Those who may try the plan will not again resort to the methods of burying the heads.
Good tools and implements are better than those that are apparently cheap and worthless. On a farm every tool should be sharp; in fact, not one should be allowed to become dull. The difference in the amount of work done in a day with a sharp tool, compared with a dull one, may be more than the value of the tool.
Straw is wasted, and yet it can be put to excellent use for mulching trees and plants, so as to protect them against sudden changes of temperature. When the ground freezes no harm is done plants as long as the cold continues, but a sudden thaw may do damage. Straw will serve to keep the ground cold until well into the spring.
Professor Lodge, of Liverpool, England, an authority on lightning and lightning guards, states that with proper ground connection galvanized fence wires may be used as lightning conductors. To be effective the conductors must terminate in damp earth. He does not approve of twisting the wires tightly, as two loose cables of three wires each are better than one tight one of half a dozen strands. The wires may be stapled to the building without insulation. A building that has its highest lines and all projecting points thus protected would be well guarded. The main point is proper ground connection.
Clover hay is now on the market in the shape of clover meal. It is sealed and used for calves, but finds more favor with those who feed pigs, it being found excellent as an addition to skim milk. The clover meal, if sealed, becomes soft and swells and has been found very wholesome and nutritious, as well as highly relished by young stock.
If cows begin to fall off in milk during the winter, after being given an abundance of grain and hay, it is an indication that the quarters are cold or that they require some kind of succulent food. Where ensilage is used it serves as green food, but on farms where no silo is filled the food may be varied by allowing sliced carrots or turnips, though the best results can be secured by first cooking the turnips and thickening the mess with bran. When fed warm the cow will relish the mess highly, and the change of food will improve the appetite.
There is more profit in keeping a few good animals than to have the stalls occupied with those that give no return for their keep. There are two duties devolving upon farmers which are seldom fulfilled. One is to thin off the fruit from a tree and the other is to cull out the inferior animals. When the herd is thinned out the cost of food is lessened and less labor is required. Every year the herd or flock should be improved and the least profitable animals disposed of, so as to increase production and reduce the cost.
The fodder shredder enables farmers to use fodder to the best advantage, but even if such did not happen the shredder so reduces the stalks as to make them desirable for bedding and an absorbent in the manure heap. If the use of the shredder results in nothing more than preventing the loss of fodder in the fields it will save a large sum every year.
Manure does not give full benefit in one year. It is something that shows good effects for several seasons. The reason is that manure does not decompose very quickly, and as the plants can only utilize it as it becomes soluble the manure

lasts from one to three or four years, according to the materials of which it is composed.
When crops of corn or other grain are grown on the same plot several years in succession the soil becomes impoverished of certain elements and left with an excess of others. Rotation enables the land to give better crops, because there is a more equal distribution of plant foods to the crops, and when manure is applied the land is consequently better supplied for the next series of crops.
Seed corn is liable to injury during the winter unless it is stored in a dry place. There is considerable moisture in corn, and it can be affected by frost. Selected corn is hung in a loft, where it is warm and dry, and also examined frequently. It is important to give seed corn attention, as failure to germinate during the spring may throw next year's crop back by compelling re-planting.
If you feed and shut up for two or three weeks at any time geese are ready for market. But this is not their chief end, for they are a source of profit all the year. They can be plucked of their feathers two or three times during the summer; the feathers pull out easily when ripe and dry at the ends, and bring a good price always.
The cost of keeping a cow one year is estimated at \$35, or about ten cents a day. The estimated cost, however, is not reliable, as some cows eat more than others, and the kind of food used also influences the cost. The cost of the food is of no consequence provided the cow gives results corresponding thereto. The question sought to be answered is how much can a cow give on a certain quantity of food, and a solution of the problem depends on the breed of the cow. A good cow should be a heavy feeder, and produce milk and butter therefrom so as to give a large profit.
The agitation in favor of better sheep for mutton is changing the breeds on many farms. Farmers are not now as much interested in wool as formerly, but are turning their attention to the production of mutton of the best quality. Although there are fewer sheep now than a few years ago, yet the value of sheep is much more. There is also an improvement in keeping and feeding sheep, the hillside, with exposure in winter, being the lot of sheep in former years.
Close as competition now is in all dairy products, those who achieve most success who are able to get most profit out of the by-products of their business. Wherever butter is made the farmer can often make nearly as much from skim milk as he does from the sale of butter. When skim milk is fed on the farm and only the butter sold little of the soil fertility is lost. If it is fed to poultry or to growing pigs it will in eggs and meat bring as much money to the farmer's pocket as the sales from butter itself.
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